

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THESE EVENTS MAY BE IMPACTED BY COVID-19, FOR THE MOST UPDATED INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT THE EVENT CALENDAR AT WWW.CITYOFMESQUITE.COM.

February 2021

- 1 -** Jobseeker Support Initiative, Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive, Call 972-216-6220 to schedule a support session.

- 1,** City Council meetings, 7 p.m., City Hall,
15 757 N. Galloway Avenue, 972-216-6244.

- 8 -** Take Home Kits for Families, Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive or Mesquite North Branch Library, 2600 Oates Drive, Call 972-216-6220 for more information.



STAY UPDATED ON THE LATEST LOCAL MESQUITE NEWS ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AT www.cityofmesquite.com/Coronavirus

FREQUENTLY CALLED CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Mesquite Municipal Center	972-288-7711
Animal Services	972-216-6283
Building Inspection	972-216-6212
Environmental Code Hotline	972-216-6276
Main Library	972-216-6220
Parks and Recreation	972-216-6260
Planning and Zoning	972-216-6216
Police Non-Emergency	972-285-6336
Trash Collection/Recycling	972-216-6284
Street/Alley Repair	972-216-6282
Water Billing	972-216-6208
Water Leaks/Sewer Back-ups	972-216-6278



Mesquite will begin enforcing amended parking ordinances after January 1

The new year brings new changes to the City of Mesquite's parking ordinances. In January 2021, the City of Mesquite will begin enforcing amendments to the parking ordinances in residential areas. The amendments address commercial and oversized vehicles, parking on public streets and private property as well as recreational vehicles (RV) and parking on unimproved surfaces in residential areas. The highlights of the amendments of the parking ordinances include:

- Aligned definition with the Texas Transportation Code of what constitutes as a commercial or oversized motor vehicle, using weight as the determining factor.
- Prohibiting the parking of a commercial/oversized vehicle, RV, trailer or boat on a street or in an alley for more than 24 hours.
- Prohibiting the parking of a commercial/oversized vehicle, race car or dune buggy, utility platform vehicle or farm equipment on private property in a residential district.
- Allowing the parking of a maximum of two operable RV's or trailers on improved surfaces of private property in a residential district.
- Prohibiting the parking of boats, campers, mobile homes, RVs, trailers and farm equipment on any surface other than an improved surface on private property within a residential district.

Maria Martinez, Director of Neighborhood Services, said, "This is about public safety and the appearance of our neighborhoods. The City will educate before enforcing the amended parking ordinances. We will provide a courtesy notice to property owners and vehicle owners and provide them time to take corrective measures to address the violation." Details on the amendments are available at www.cityofmesquite.com/ParkingOrdinance or contact the City's Environmental Code office at 972-329-8704 with questions.

City offers water utility customers payment plan options



On Jan. 5, 2021, the City of Mesquite will resume water disconnections if there is a past due balance. Longer term payment plans are available to help residents who are struggling to pay their City water bills due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The City can offer a payment plan that fits their unique situation. Call the Utility Billing Office at 972-216-6208 (press 0) to discuss available options.

New animal ordinance goes into effect



In January 2021, a new animal ordinance goes into effect. The Mesquite City Council adopted revisions to the Chapter 4 – Animal Ordinance in November of 2020. The goal of the amendments is to make Mesquite a safer place and more animal friendly. Below are a few topics the revised City Ordinance addresses:

- New language that defines animal nuisance violations.
- Mandatory microchipping of all animals impounded by the City of Mesquite as well as by breeders and multiple pet permit holders.
- Details on the holding period for impounded animals by Mesquite Animal Services Division.
- Expanded the provisions of the types of violations that apply to the proper care and treatment of animals by the public.
- Mandatory spaying and neutering after multiple impoundments by the City.
- Incorporated hearings at Mesquite Municipal Court regarding non-criminal matters, such as continuing animal nuisances, inhumane or cruelly treated animals and disposition of prohibited animals.

For more information, please call Mesquite Animal Services at 972-216-6283 or visit www.cityofmesquite.com/AnimalServices.



Take your keys. Lock your car. Hide your things.



During these uncertain times, one thing is certain; crime happens because of opportunity. In 2020, the Mesquite Police Department (MPD) noticed a majority of Burglary of Motor Vehicles happened when vehicles were left unlocked. MPD would like to remind residents of three simple tips. Take your keys. Lock your vehicle and hide valuables out of sight. It only takes about 10 seconds to Take. Lock. Hide. But it takes a criminal only 20 seconds to break into a vehicle. Don't become a victim of opportunity.

Council Community Focus

The City Council's strategic goal of keeping "Attractive Neighborhoods" includes maintaining programs that promote maintenance of commercial and residential property. The Neighborhood Services Department presented the City of Mesquite's quarterly report during the City Council meeting on Dec. 7 and voluntary compliance continues to be the leading method of compliance in Mesquite. In the fourth quarter, the number of environmental code violations decreased from the same quarter in 2019 and 86% of cases were successfully resolved through voluntary compliance by property owners. The report included statistics for the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2020, which is for the months of July, August and September.



Parks and Recreation Corner

PROGRAMS AND CLASSES MAY BE IMPACTED BY COVID-19. FOR THE MOST UPDATED INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CITYOFMESQUITE.COM/PARD OR CALL 972-216-6260.



PLAY DAY

Looking for a fun and safe place for your kids when school is out? Mesquite Parks and Recreation offers a great option for kids to have fun during the MISD closure on Monday, Feb. 15.

Play Day is available at Dunford Recreation Center, 1015 Green Canyon Drive, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Kids will have a day of fun doing crafts, playing games and other activities. The fee is \$20 per child (\$30 per child for non-residents).

Pre-registration is required by Thursday, Feb. 11 and space is limited. Participants will need a lunch, snack and water bottle. For more information or to register online, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/PARD.



LITTLE ROOKIES TENNIS

Little Rookies instructional program will teach kids, ages 3 - 4, the fundamentals of tennis by working on form, racquet handling and the basic rules of the game. Registration opens on Feb. 8 with sessions beginning Saturday, March 13 at Westlake Sports Center, 601 Gross Road. Two sessions are available at 9 or 10 a.m. The fee is \$35 per participant for the five-week course. Parent participation is required.



YOUTH VOLLEYBALL

Registration for the Youth Volleyball spring league begins on Monday, Jan. 18. The fee is \$65 per player and the games begin on Saturday, March 27. Register online at www.cityofmesquite.com/PARD or at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1515 N. Galloway Avenue.



Cold Weather Tips

Winter has arrived and with freezing temperatures comes the risk of frozen pipes. Here are a few precautions that will help residents decrease the chances of having plumbing problems:



- Insulate exposed pipes or faucets to help prevent freezing.
- Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses to prevent a hard freeze from bursting the outdoor faucet or the pipe leading to it.
- Open doors below sinks when the temperature is expected to drop below freezing. This will allow warm air to reach the pipes.
- Let the water run temporarily. Leave a small trickle of water running— don't forget the bathtub and shower.
- Locate the main water shut-off valve. If a pipe breaks somewhere in the house, you can turn off the water at this main valve. If you are unable to shut off the water, contact Water Utilities Dispatch at 972-216-6973.

Taking these precautions will help protect water pipes throughout the winter. For more information, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/ColdWeatherTips.



City of Mesquite employees donate more than \$36,000 to community they serve

The employees for the City of Mesquite continue to give back to the community they serve as they raised more than \$36,000 for local charities as a part of their 2020 Real. Texas. Giving. campaign. In the past four years, City employees have donated nearly \$140,000 through the campaign to local charitable organizations, programs and services that support the Mesquite community.

The 2020 Real. Texas. Giving. campaign assisted 16 different programs that serve Mesquite, including Sharing Life Community Outreach, the American Heart Association, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas as well as Santa Cop and Fill the Boot. Chris Sanchez, Assistant to the City Manager said, "This year was very special for the campaign as so many of our local charities have been hit hard by the pandemic and their resources have been diminished. These funds will give them a boost as they enter the holiday season and provide services to the community."



Mesquite ranked as 48th most livable mid-sized city in the U.S.

Six North Texas cities have been ranked among the "most livable" mid-sized cities in the U.S., including the City of Mesquite. In a study by personal finance technology company SmartAsset, Mesquite ranked number 48. The study compared 227 cities with at least 100,000 residents while excluding the country's top 100 most populous cities. The study was based on eight metrics including median home value change, median monthly housing costs, percentage of residents below the poverty line, median household income, unemployment rate, percentage of residents without health insurance, average commute time and a measurement of income inequality.



The **Mesquite Arts Center** is located at 1527 N. Galloway Avenue

These events may be impacted by COVID-19. For the most updated information, please visit the event calendar at www.mesquiteartscenter.org/.

Feb. 1 - March 27, **Lanny Quarles Exhibition: Collage Series/ Ink Series**, Main Gallery, Free Admission

Feb. 1 - March 27, **Paige Lehmann Exhibition: Freedom from Grieving**, Chamber Gallery, Free Admission



Black History Month Programming from Feb. 1- Feb. 28, View events at www.mesquiteartscenter.org

Feb. 1, **Tote and Go Program: Valentine's Kids Crafts**, Project kits available for pick-up starting at 12 p.m., Mesquite Arts Center Lobby, First-come, first-served

Mesquite Community Theatre presents **Nonsense: The Mega Musical - Version**, Concert Hall

Feb. 13, 20, 27:
Saturday Night Performance, 8 p.m.

Feb. 14, 21, 28:
Sunday Matinee Performance, 2: 30 p.m.



Feb. 15, **Tote and Go Program: Mardi Gras Mask**, Project kits available for pick-up starting at 12 p.m., Mesquite Arts Center Lobby, First-come, first-served



Feb. 24, **MAC Doodles: Artists of Color**, 4 p.m., Mesquite Arts Center YouTube Channel

www.facebook.com/MesqArtsCenter/

www.instagram.com/MesqArtsCenter/

www.twitter.com/MesqArtsCenter/

CITY OF MESQUITE
1515 N. GALLOWAY AVENUE
MESQUITE, TX 75149
972-288-7711



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Daniel Aleman, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem,
Councilmember, District 6

www.cityofmesquite.com/CityCouncil

THE MAINSTREAM IS AVAILABLE IN SPANISH AT
WWW.CITYOFMESQUITE.COM/MAINSTREAMESPANOL